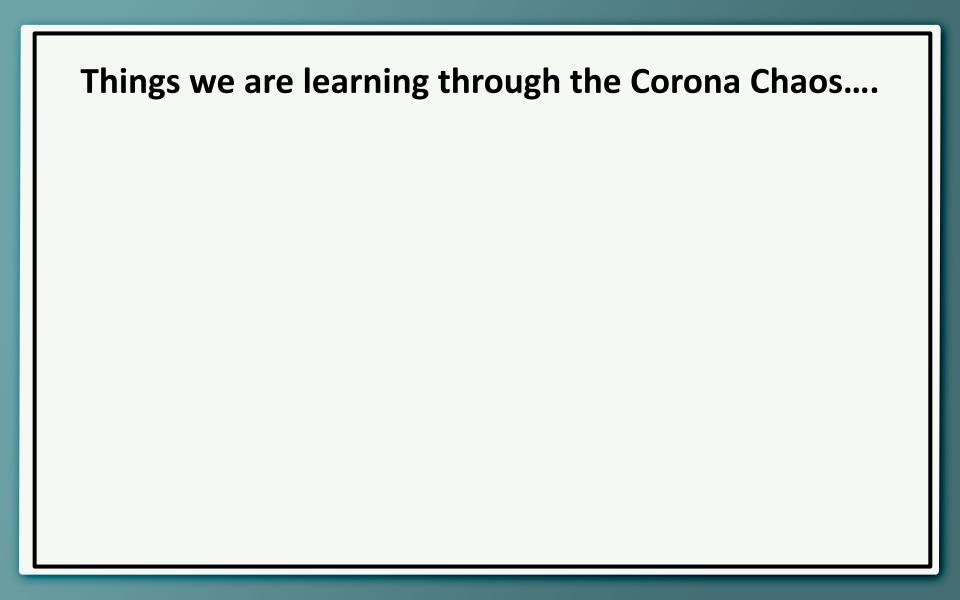
Sunday May 10, 2020



Crisis Creates

Crisis Creates Courage

Crisis Creates Conflict

Crisis Creates Questions



ANSWERS GROUNDED



IN FAITH AND HOPE

3:13-15 PETER

I Peter 3:13-17

- **13** Now who is there to harm you if you are zealous for what is good?
- 14 But even if you should suffer for righteousness' sake, you will be blessed. Have no fear of them, nor be troubled,
- but in your hearts honor Christ the Lord as holy,

 always being prepared to make a defense to anyone who

 asks you for a reason for the hope that is in you;

 yet do it with gentleness and respect,
- 16 having a good conscience, so that, when you are slandered, those who revile your good behavior in Christ may be put to shame.
- 17 For it is better to suffer for doing good, if that should be God's will, than for doing evil.

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Why do you have hope?

Why do you have hope?

I have hope because

Why do you have hope?

I have hope because

God is real

Why do you have hope?

I have hope because

God is infinite and personal.

Why do you have hope?

I have hope because

God is sovereign and providential.

Question?

Why can God being 'sovereign' and 'providential' instill hope in you and in me?

What does 'sovereign' mean?

| What does 'providential' mean? |

What does 'sovereign' mean?

What does 'sovereign' mean?

We usually think of a King or a Queen with authority and power....

What does 'sovereign' mean?



Constitutional Monarch

Queen Elizabeth II British Commonwealth

What does 'sovereign' mean?



Constitutional Monarch

Queen Elizabeth II British Commonwealth

Absolute Monarch

King Salman bin
Abdulaziz
Kingdom of Saudi Arabia



What does 'sovereign' mean?

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The best form of government is a truly benevolent dictatorship...

What does 'sovereign' mean?

The best form of government is a truly benevolent dictatorship...

...however, on a human level "absolute power corrupts absolutely".

God is sovereign

God is sovereign

The sovereignty of God refers to His position of supreme authority and absolute power.

- **11** But as for you, O man of God, flee these things. Pursue righteousness, godliness, faith, love, steadfastness, gentleness.
- 12 Fight the good fight of the faith. Take hold of the eternal life to which you were called and about which you made the good confession in the presence of many witnesses.
- 13 I charge you in the presence of God, who gives life to all things, and of Christ Jesus, who in His testimony before Pontius Pilate made the good confession,
- 14 to keep the commandment unstained and free from reproach until the appearing of our Lord Jesus Christ,
- 15 which He will display at the proper time-- He who is the blessed and only Sovereign, the King of kings and Lord of lords,
- who alone has immortality, who dwells in unapproachable light, whom no one has ever seen or can see. To Him be honor and eternal dominion. Amen.

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God is sovereign

The sovereignty of God refers to His position of supreme authority and absolute power.

God is sovereign

Our God Reigns

God is providential

God is providential

The providence of God refers to His activity of **guiding, guarding** and **governing** His plan in all things.

God is providential

Deism — Determinism

God is providential

Deism

Determinism

...belief in the existence of a supreme being, specifically of a creator who does not intervene in the universe. The term is used chiefly of an intellectual movement of the 17th and 18th centuries that accepts the existence of a creator on the basis of reason but rejects belief in a supernatural deity who interacts with humankind.

God is providential

Deism

Determinism

...the doctrine that all events, including human action, are ultimately determined by causes external to the will. Some philosophers have taken determinism to imply that individual human beings have no free will and cannot be held morally responsible for their actions.

God is providential

Deism _____ Theism ____ Determinism

God is providential

Theism

Deism

Determinism

...belief in the existence of god, especially belief in one God as creator of the universe, who intervenes in it and sustains a personal relationship with His creatures.

God is providential

General providence

Deism

Special providence

Determinism

God is providential

General providence

God's <u>continuous upholding</u> of the existence and natural order of the Universe.

Special providence

Determinism

God is providential

Determinism

General providence

God's <u>continuous upholding</u> of the existence and natural order of the Universe.

Special providence

God's extraordinary intervention in the life of people.

Psalm 139:7-10

- 1 O LORD, you have searched me and known me!
- **2** You know when I sit down and when I rise up; you discern my thoughts from afar.
- **3** You search out my path and my lying down and are acquainted with all my ways.
- 4 Even before a word is on my tongue, behold, O LORD, you know it altogether.
- **5** You hem me in, behind and before, and lay your hand upon me.
- 6 Such knowledge is too wonderful for me; it is high; I cannot attain it.
- **7** Where shall I go from your Spirit? Or where shall I flee from your presence?
- 8 If I ascend to heaven, you are there! If I make my bed in Sheol, you are there!
- 9 If I take the wings of the morning and dwell in the uttermost parts of the sea,
- 10 even there your hand shall lead me, and your right hand shall hold me.

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God is providential

The providence of God refers to His activity of **guiding, guarding** and **governing** His plan in all things.

God is providential

Our God Rules

Question?

Why can God being 'sovereign' and 'providential' instill hope in you and in me?

Question?

Why can God being 'sovereign' and 'providential' instill hope in you and in me?

...because we can trust God because He not only has all the authority and all the ability to handle my life and circumstances, but also because He has all the intent to do that in a way that brings the most good both in His expansive will and kingdom but also in my life and the lives of those around me.

What's the next question?

What's the next question?

How do we reconcile <u>God's reign and rule</u> when our world gets turned upside down and inside out?

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How do we reconcile <u>God's reign and rule</u> when our world gets turned upside down and inside out?

Next week...see you then.